



Hamsterley Primary School
Hamsterley, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham, DL13 3QF
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'Opening minds, unlocking potential, celebrating success together'

26th September 2019

Dear Parents

Please find below dates and other information regarding the remainder of this term.

After School Club - Martial Arts

Further to our letter dated 9th September, we will be running a free After School Club taster session (3.30pm to 4.30pm) for Martial Arts through an external provider, Sports King on Monday 30th September. We are hoping that there will be enough interest to secure lessons from Monday 7th October till the end of Christmas Term. The cost will be £3 per session which will be payable through Parent Pay. The session is open to all pupils and we have been informed by Sports King that there is an opportunity for pupils to be graded. Further information will be sent out after the taster session.

Swimming Lessons

Class 2 - Year 3,4,5,6

Swimming takes place every Friday up until end of Christmas Term. Can you please ensure your child has their full swimming kit and bag every Friday morning.

Clothing

Could you please ensure that your child brings to school **every day** a coat, jumper, suitable indoor footwear, suitable outdoor footwear, a book bag, PE kit can be brought to school on a Monday and collected on a Friday also **To help your child and staff, could you please ensure you label all clothing/bags.**

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Please join us on Friday 27th September for our Macmillan Coffee Morning, 9.15 am to 10.15 am, in the school hall. Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa, cake and chat! Any small cake or biscuit donations will be most grateful, you can bring these to school on Thursday afternoon or Friday morning, before 9.00 am. We are asking all children to bring £1 to school on Friday 27th September where they can buy a cake/biscuit and have a guess at how many sweets in the jar and guess the weight of the cake. Small prize for the winners. All money raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Lip Balm and Throat Lozenges

Some children are bringing in lip balms, which they may be sharing. Could any parent who feels their child needs a lip balm (which should be clear, not coloured) or throat lozenges, please ensure they are handed in at the office in a plastic bag with the child's name. A permission form will need to be completed at the office. Your child will be able to use the lip balm or throat lozenges at break times/under supervision. This should alleviate any issues caused by sharing these items.

Harvest Festival

This will take place on Thursday 24th October at Churches Together, 9.15am to 10.00am. We would like to donate the school's harvest collection to the Bishop Auckland Food Bank again this year. This initiative aims to help those in our communities who are in food crisis and have been referred for urgent assistance. The children support this decision which shows both their awareness of others' circumstances and their wish to help those in need in our neighbouring areas.

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We are asking for donations of non-perishable goods, i.e. toiletries, tinned and dried goods (such as pasta, cereals, all tinned food, shampoo, soap). These can be dropped off at the school office any time from now up until the afternoon of Wednesday 23rd October. Any donations after this date can be taken straight to the church on the morning of the service.

Guidance on infection control in schools

To ensure we prevent the spread of infections, please find attached a reminder of the guidance with regards to the recommended period a child needs to be kept off school. Our most common illnesses/infections include:

Illness	Recommended period to be kept away from school
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea and/or vomiting
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered
Head Lice	None - treatment is recommended only in cases where live lice have been seen

Further information is available from the Public Health Agency website, www.publichealth.hscni.net or www.gov.uk/government/organisations/Public-health-england

Friends of the School

Save this date! Friends of the School are in the process of organising a Halloween Disco to be held on Tuesday 22nd October 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Hamsterley Social Club. Entry will be £4.00 per child to include hot dog, Children are in the process of designing a poster with all the information.

Dates for the diary

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| Thursday 26 th Sept | European Day - school activities |
| Friday 27 th Sept | Macmillan Coffee Morning
Class 2 Swimming |
| Monday 30 th September | Marital Arts Taster Session all pupils 3.30pm to 4.30pm |
| Wednesday 2 nd October | Tag Rugby After School League |
| Friday 4 th October | Class 2 Swimming |
| Wednesday 9 th October | Tag Rugby After School League |
| Friday 11 th October | Class 2 Swimming |
| Thursday 17 th October | Whole School Trip Hamsterley Forest - info to follow |
| Friday 18 th October | Class 2 Swimming |
| Thursday 24 th October | Harvest Festival, Churches Together
NHS Flu Immunisation for all pupils, organised through NHS |
| Friday 25 th October | Class 2 Swimming
School breaks up and returns Monday 4 th November |

Thank you for your continued support.

L Cowans

Head Teacher

